

AMEND THE CANAL TREATY.

So As To Authorize Its Defense By This Country.

ALL VOTED FOR IT BUT MORGAN

Washington, March 12.—The senate committee on foreign relations agreed to report the Hay-Pauncefote treaty amending the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, with an amendment granting authority for the defense of the canal by this country when constructed. The following is the text of the amendment:

"Insert at the end of Section 5, of Article 2, the following:

"It is agreed, however, that none of the immediately foregoing conditions and stipulations in sections number 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 of this act shall apply to measures which the United States may find it necessary to take for securing by its own forces the defense of the United States and the maintenance of public order."

Senator Morgan was the only member of the committee who cast his vote against the amendment, Senators Bacon and Daniel, the only other Democrats present, voting with the Republicans. They also voted with the Republicans to have the treaty reported as amended.

Senator Morgan talked at length during the sitting of the committee in opposition to the amendment, practically consuming the entire time of the session. He contended for the utmost liberality toward other powers in the use of the proposed canal and held that American interests were fully safeguarded by the treaty as it stands.

Lucky Boxes Parker.

Boston, March 13.—Henry Parker, of this city who is wanted by the United States authorities on the charge of using the mails in a scheme to defraud in selling mysterious boxes, said to have wonderful good luck qualities, has not been found. Postmaster Hibbard said that 20,000 letters addressed to Parker had accumulated at the postoffice during the past two days. As the price of the box is \$1 each, it appears that a considerable amount of money is involved in the case. Steps were taken to put a stop to the business and an attachment was placed on the goods, and a keeper put in charge.

Against Publishing Prize Fights.

Washington, March 12.—Representative Hepburn, of Iowa, introduced a bill providing that no picture or description of any prize fight or pugilistic encounter, or any proposal of betting on a fight shall be transmitted in the mails or by any common carrier engaged in interstate commerce, whether in a newspaper or periodical or in any other form. Any person sending or knowingly receiving such matter for transmission is made liable to imprisonment not exceeding one year or fine not exceeding \$1,000.

Twenty-Five Miles Yet.

London, March 13.—The Daily News has the following from Asvogel Kop: "The march was continued to this point. No Boers were seen on the way. The British are now only twenty-five miles away from Bloemfontein. One of the Boer prisoners says the siege of Mafeking has been raised."

Pneumatic Mail Service.

Washington, March 13.—The house committee on postoffices continued the hearing on the extension of the pneumatic tube service to a number of large cities. Postmaster Dickerson, of Detroit and representatives of several business associations of Chicago, speaking for the extension.

Asking For Reinforcements.

Manila, March 12.—Generals Young and Hood are asking for reinforcements, and a battalion of the Forty-eighth regiment has been sent to Aparri. Other troops will follow. The rebels recently persistently attacked Aparri for several hours, but were finally driven away. Details of the affair are lacking. The Spanish prisoners report that the enemy has divided into small bands in the mountains, and are under the leadership of General Tegaspi.

Boers Dissatisfied.

London, March 10.—Mr. Hillwell, the Daily News correspondent at Mafeking, who passed two months in prison in Pretoria, escaped and was recaptured sixty miles from Pretoria, sending a dispatch dated Pretoria Jail, describing the misleading news given the Boers by their officers regarding the course of the war. He said: "Great dissatisfaction exists among the Boers as their supplies of food, especially meat, coffee and sugar, are very irregular and many threaten to return to their farms."

Found Dead in San Juan.

San Juan, Puerto Rico, March 13.—John Wesley French, of New York, a lawyer and a graduate of the Columbia law school, who has served as a lieutenant in the Seventy-first regiment, was found dead in a hallway. The circumstances surrounding the case give rise to a suspicion of foul play and an investigation is in progress. Mr. French had been in Puerto Rico a year, having been employed as a school teacher. He had also spent some of his time in newspaper work.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

What is Being Done in the Fifty-Sixth General Assembly.

MARCH EIGHT.

The Senate committee on Cuba will send a sub-committee of three to visit Cuba if it becomes feasible for senators to be absent. A favorable report was made by the Senate on the bill passed by the house to expend revenues collected from Puerto Rico in that island, states dispatches.

Senator Culberson offered a resolution to provide for estimates of cost of improving the ship canal at Sabine pass.

The house committee in charge of the shipping bill has nearly completed that measure to satisfy a majority.

The dairy interests had a hearing in the asking for a 10 cent tax per pound on imitation butter, and giving state authority over butter when it passes from one state to another.

MARCH NINE.

After an executive session the Senate took up the Puerto Rican question which resulted in a long debate.

The Senate confirmed the nomination of William Noble to be postmaster at South McAlester, P. T., which was made by Mr. Noble.

Senator Mason introduced a joint resolution for medals for the men of the North Atlantic squadron.

Under a new rule which changes the special order for pension bills from Friday night to the second and fourth Fridays in each month private pensions were considered. A call of the house was required to secure a quorum.

The house voted to send a contested seat case from Alabama by turning out G. A. Rollins and seating Wm. F. Aldrich, who has been three times given a seat by the house.

MARCH TEN.

Senator Allen (Neb.) called attention to the statement that the employees of the Senate refused to witness the impeachment trial.

Senator Baker has a bill in the Senate to appropriate \$100,000 for a public building in Hutchinson, Kas.

Senator Lodge has a bill giving to the senior major general the rank and pay of lieutenant general.

The house made a special order for the bill for the government of Hawaii for April 3; voting on amendments to the bill.

Mr. Ray (N. Y.) introduced a bill to provide for trial in Oklahoma of causes wherein the United States is party and the plaintiff is an Indian.

Mr. Levy (N. Y.) has a resolution providing that one-fourth of the monthly receipt of revenues in Cuba shall be turned over to the United States treasury until the total sum expended in Cuba is refunded.

MARCH TWELVE.

The Senate met two hours before the regular hour. The time was used in reading the Alaska civil code bill. A portion of it was read.

Senator Rawlins (Utah) spoke at length on our relations with the Philippines.

Senator Hoar, just before the passage of the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill, offered an amendment giving the ex-Queen of Hawaii \$20,000 and an annuity of \$10,000. The amendment was promptly rejected.

The house voted to print 75,000 copies of the eulogies delivered in congress upon the late Vice President Hobart.

An important bill was reported by the public lands committee, to extend the placer mining laws, with certain modifications, to shores rights, beach workings, etc.

Will Destroy Town and Mines.

London, March 13.—A correspondent at Lourenco Marques says:

"I am reliably informed that high officials openly avow that the British flag shall never fly at Johannesburg. The place will be razed to the ground and the mines put in readiness to be electrically exploded from the fort as occasion requires."

"Most of the gold mines except those in which the government controls, are in a shocking state. They are flooded and the machinery is rusting and being wilfully smashed."

Santa Fe Using Stored Coal.

Topeka, Nov. 13.—A large quantity of the coal which the Santa Fe stored at Topeka, Ottawa and other points along the line, is being used and the remainder is being moved to other points of the system. This coal was stored some six months ago, at a time when there was a threatened scarcity of coal, and was held in reserve to be used in case of an emergency. At Topeka there were some 800 cars of coal stored and a proportionate amount at other points on the system where it would be handy.

Kentucky Officials Arrested.

Lexington, Ky., March 13.—Secretary of State Caleb Powers and Captain John Davis, capitol square policeman, made their escape from the state house in Frankfort, disguised as soldiers, and took the Chesapeake & Ohio train, accompanied by about twenty-five soldiers. On reaching Lexington they were arrested and are now in jail here.

Judge D. M. Valentine Stricken.

Topeka, March 13.—Judge D. M. Valentine, of Topeka, for eighteen years associate justice of the supreme court, and one of the best known jurists of the West, was attacked by a light stroke of paralysis at his home here. The attack was not severe and the judge rallied from its effects in a short time. He seems almost as strong as ever. He is 70 years of age and it is feared that he will sustain another attack.

Ninety-Seven Pension Bills.

Washington, March 12.—The first day pension session of the house provided for under the new rule proved a great success. There was comparatively little friction and ninety-seven bills were favorably acted upon in committee of the whole and passed by the house. The only incident of the session was a brisk exchange between Mr. Lord of California and Mr. Sulloway of New Hampshire on the general policy of pension legislation, in which the former attacked and the latter defended the system.

The New War Loan.

London, March 13.—The new war loan, which the Stock exchange has christened "khakis," has proved most popular, and has been already thrice covered, exclusive of applications from the provinces, the colonies and the Continent. It is understood that offers have been received from the United States to take up the whole, which it is expected will be covered ten to twenty times. Dealings have taken place at two and one-fourth to two and one-half per cent premium.

GEN. ROBERTS TO KRUGER.

Must Quit Gross Abuse of the White Flag.

NEUTRAL POWERS INFORMED.

London, March 13.—The war office has received the following advices from Lord Roberts, dated at Driefontein.

"The following telegram has been addressed by me to their honors, the state presidents of the Orange Free State and the South African Republic:

"Another instance having occurred of gross abuse of the white flag and of the signal of holding up hands in token of surrender; it is my duty to inform you that, if such abuse occurs again, I shall most reluctantly be compelled to order my troops to disregard the white flag entirely."

"The instance occurred on a kopje east of Driefontein farm, and was witnessed by several of my own staff officers, as well as by myself and resulted in the wounding of several of my officers and men."

"A large quantity of explosive bullets of three different kinds was found in Commandant Cronje's laager and this has been the case of every engagement with your honor's troops. Such breaches of the recognized usages of war and of the Geneva convention are a disgrace to any civilized power. A copy of this telegram has been sent to my government with the request that it may be communicated to all neutral powers."

Franchises Not Taxable.

Austin, Tex., March 12.—The corporations of Texas won a big fight in the district court here in securing from Judge Morris an opinion throwing out of court the hundreds of franchise tax suits pending against all quasi-public corporations for taxes claimed to be due on their franchises. The contention was that such franchises were taxable the same as personal or real property, and under such contention hundreds of suits have been brought all over the state to recover taxes, in some instances as far back as 1880, and representing thousands upon thousands of dollars. Judge Morris, the presiding judge, held that such franchises were in no wise taxable under the law, thus scoring a big victory for the corporations.

Cape Colony Free of Boers.

London, March 10.—The Boers while in retreat twice repulsed General French's cavalry with rifle fire. As no report has been made of the capture of prisoners, the enemy probably got away with their entire force. General French is still following them and keeping between them and Bloemfontein.

The evacuation of the northern districts of Cape Colony is now nearly complete. The British are in possession of the railroad crossings.

At Mafeking Colonel Baden-Powell seems to be in grave need of outside help. Otherwise he would not allow the correspondents to send out information respecting the distress of the garrison.

Ygorotes Are Cannibals.

San Antonio, Tex., March 13.—In two different letters received in this city from members of the Thirty-third infantry, who got so close on the heels of Aguinaldo in the mountains in the interior of Luzon, comes the story that a member of the regiment who fell behind while up in the hills, was killed and partly eaten by natives, known as Ygorotes, a tribe of cannibals.

To Guard the Mails.

Kansas City, Mo., March 10.—Postmaster Scott received an order from Washington authorizing him to appoint a mounted guard to accompany the registered mail to and from the Union depot. Colonel Scott will appoint the new man within a few days. This step has been rendered necessary by the tremendous increase in the registered mail. A guard has been needed for some time, and we have really been taking serious chances by not having this protection.

Money to Fight Plague.

Washington, March 10.—At the cabinet meeting the recommendation of the Hawaiian council that they be authorized to expend \$300,000 in the suppression of the bubonic plague and in the relief of natives, was formally approved. Some doubt was expressed as to the authority of the Hawaiian council to make this expenditure, but the opinion was unanimous that the gravity of the situation justified that course and the necessary directions will be forwarded at once.

State Teachers' Certificates.

Topeka, March 13.—The enactment of the Grattan law, relating to teachers' certificates, has led to a notable increase in the number of students in the department of pedagogy at Kansas university. In accordance with law graduates of the School of Arts who have completed the regular courses in pedagogy are granted a state teacher's certificate, by the state board of education. This certificate is good for three years, and may be good for life after two years of successful teaching.

LINCOLN'S REMAINS REMOVED.

They Have Been Transferred With Those of His Family.

Springfield, Ill., March 13.—The remains of Abraham Lincoln were transferred from the crypt of the national Lincoln monument to a temporary vault. There were no ceremonies in connection with the event and few witnessed the disinterment of the president's remains and their removal to the temporary vault.

As soon as the remains of the president are placed in the temporary vault two great stones weighing over four tons will be put in position to block the entrance and as the work of demolishing the old monument goes forward the stone from it will be piled around the vault as an additional safeguard.

The removal of the body was made necessary by the demolition of the monument preparatory to its entire reconstruction on a different plan for which \$100,000 was appropriated by the last legislature.

When the cedar box containing the metallic casket was exposed to view it was found to be in a bad state of decay and in a few years more it would have entirely rotted away. This is due to the moisture which has found its way into the concrete masonry which formed a covering for the casket. The casket itself was not opened, that ceremony being postponed until the remains are placed in their final resting place upon the completion of the new monument. The temporary vault prepared for the casket is twelve feet square and constructed with double decks, thus insuring room for the six bodies now under the monument.

Afghanistan True to England.

London, March 12.—The Ameer of Afghanistan has authorized his agent in London to publish the following statement of the policy of Afghanistan towards Great Britain and Russia.

"I have come to the conclusion that Russia feared Afghanistan, as a war with Afghans would mean a general rising of all Islam, which would spread through Russian Asia. Russia has not troops enough to combat such a rising. Her hold on the Mussulman countries she has conquered is insecure. They hate her, and with ten times her power, Russia could not fight Afghanistan and India successfully. The Afghans prefer death to slavery, and their women and children are being taken by the Russians."

"England's troubles are always my troubles, her strength is my strength, and her weakness is my weakness. England must remember that I am always ready to fight for her on land, here or in India."

Secretary Hay Contradicts.

Washington, March 10.—The secretary of state authorized a contradiction of the printed statement that the state department has secured the assent of other powers to the provisions of the impending canal convention. No propositions in relation to the subject-matter of this convention, he says, have been laid before any other country.

The Plague at Cape Town.

Cape Town, March 10.—The steamer which has arrived here from Rosario, Argentine republic, with bubonic plague on board is the British steamer Kilburn. She is in strict quarantine. It turns out that there are three cases of the plague on the Kilburn. The captain died during the voyage, presumably of the disease.

Calls It Blackmail.

Lima, O., March 12.—H. L. Michael, vice president of the defunct American bank, which was mysteriously robbed of \$18,000 over a year ago, was arrested charged with the robbery. Michael was taken before a justice, where bonds is being arranged.

Another Advance In Wages.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 12.—Four thousand employees of the National Tube company at McKeesport, Pa., were notified of a 10 per cent advance in wages. The increase includes all day laborers in the tube mills. This is the second increase of 10 per cent that the day men of the National Tube company have received within six months.

Church In Chicago Burns Down.

Chicago, March 10.—The Second Presbyterian church, at Twentieth street and Michigan avenue, is destroyed by fire. The building was the home of one of the most aristocratic congregations in the city. A reception was being given in the church parlors by the Young People's Christian Endeavor of the church and the assemblage was in the midst of the festivities when the blaze was discovered in the organ, in the main auditorium. There was a wild rush for the exits, but all escaped safely. The loss on the building and furnishings is estimated at \$300,000.

Hurts The Wholesalers.

Kansas City, March 13.—A local wholesaler here said: "We do not know what to make of the situation of binding twine. We can not meet the 10 cent price. We can not go below the 11 1/2 cents we are filling wholesale orders at. As it is, the price is from 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 cents below what it was a year ago. We can not hope to meet the penitentiary price, nor can we see how they can afford to sell their product at 10 cents. The fiber and sisal cost them 8 1/2 cents."

WATERING THE LAND

HOW IRRIGATION IS PROGRESSING IN IDAHO.

Heretofore Arid Regions Being Rapidly Transformed Into Gardens—Farmers' Societies In Many Instances Own the Irrigating Works.

(Boise, Idaho, Letter.)

Most of the people who farm in the rainfall regions suppose that the irrigation of land is a complicated process and that the art of doing it can only be acquired after years of experience, whereas, as a matter of fact, it is about the easiest and most simple work the western farmer has to do. In most cases the children attend to it under the direction of their parents, and any boy of 10 or 12 can do a man's work when it comes to irrigation.

The western farmer is wholly indifferent as to rainfall. He doesn't depend upon it in the least. The water that interests him is that which flows down into the valley from the melting snows in the mountain ranges. These waters he diverts into great canals which run along the rim of the valley about the irrigable lands and are tapped at stated intervals by what are called "laterals" or sub-ditches which flow from farm to farm and out of which the farmer takes the water for his fields. In some cases the waters of these mountain streams are acquired by the community of farmers along their course, each one holding as many shares of stock in the co-operative canal scheme as he owns acres of land, and being entitled to so many inches of water for every acre of his ownership. This is the usual plan. But when the construction of the main canal, owing to engineering difficulties, is too expensive a piece of business for the farmer to afford, irrigation companies undertake the work and build the canal into portions of the country where large areas of land are to be reclaimed. These irrigation companies are "common carriers" of water and furnish it for a nominal price per acre per annum to the farmer. Sometimes these irrigation companies own large tracts under their ditch which they sell in small farms with the water right, to settlers at a nominal price per acre. In other instances they do not own land at all, leaving that to be acquired by the settler under the various acts of congress.

Perhaps no portion of the Union is now making such active progress in irrigation development, or is receiving so large a quota of immigrants as southern Idaho. There are millions of unoccupied acres in that state which only await settlement to become as productive as the lands upon the Nile. Efforts are being put forth by the state authorities to bring the advantages of these lands to the notice of the eastern farmer, and the several railroads of the state are engaged in the work.

Perhaps the easiest and the best way to acquire information is from the General Passenger Agent of the Oregon Short Line at Salt Lake City, from whence conservatively prepared pamphlets descriptive of irrigation methods and containing reliable information about the various localities now open for settlement, are being mailed free.

The time is certainly not far distant when the unoccupied public domain of Idaho will be entirely taken up, a condition which will be most unfortunate to those who delay taking advantage of the rare opportunities now offered.

A troop of Boer horsemen who performed nightly in a German circus have been forbidden that part of their program which represents a victory over British redcoats.

AMERICAN TRANSVAAL FUND.

To Aid Widows and Orphans of the Boers.

A pathetic appeal of the committee of Africaners and Bond members of parliament was issued at Cape Town, Oct. 10, 1899, signed by Messrs. N. F. DeWaal, Joseph N. Hoffman, J. H. Hofmeyr, Thomas P. Theron and D. J. A. Van Zyl, which says among other things:

"What may, what can, we colonial Africaners do in this sorrowful time? Join in the work of warfare with the weapons? The law and our duty as British subjects forbid this, even should other circumstances not oppose such a course of action."

"But what neither the law nor the duty of the subject forbids, and what, moreover, agrees in every respect with all principles of religion and humanity, is the offering of help to the wounded, to the widows and the orphans."

In the name of the Africaner bond, on behalf of the citizens of the South African republic and their noble ally, the Orange Free State, I appeal to all Americans to show their sympathy with the brave people who are now, in the words of John Hancock, literally offering all that they have, all that they are, and all that they hope to be, upon the altar of their country, fighting to the death the arrogant and imposition of the great British empire, in order to remain free and independent, as did our American forefathers in 1776 and 1812. THERE WILL BE NO BOER WOUNDED ON THE BRITISH-AMERICAN HOSPITAL SHIP.

Send to me your subscriptions, small and large, and I will send the amount to Mr. C. C. de Villiers, Cape Town, the honorable treasurer of the committee of the Africaner bond, to be expended under that appeal. I sent \$2,000 on Feb. 23, 1900.

GEORGE W. VAN SICLEN, American Treasurer. No. 141 Broadway, New York City. Feb. 24, 1900.

DID THEY SHOOT GOEBEL?

State Officers And Clerks Are Under Arrest For It.

HUNTING PROMINENT MEN.

Frankfort, Ky., March 12.—W. H. Conlton, a clerk in the office of State Auditor Sweeney, was arrested and placed in jail charged with complicity in the murder of the late Governor William E. Goebel. The arrest was made by Chief of Police Williams. Warrants have also been issued for the arrest of Secretary of the State Caleb Powers and Captain John W. Davis, policeman of the state capital square, but they have not been served. The warrants also charge them with being accessory to the Goebel assassination, and warrants against ex-Secretary of State Charles Finley and John T. Powers, brother of Secretary of State Powers, have been sworn out and have been sent to Whitley county for service. Davis is in the city but was not at his residence, and up to a late hour the police had not found him. It is not known whether Secretary Powers is in the city.

Several witnesses who testified at the trial of Harlan Whitaker swore that the shots at the time of the Goebel assassination were fired from the direction of Powers' office and he and all of the parties for whom the warrants were issued have been under the strictest surveillance ever since the assassination.

Public admission to the state house grounds was denied.

Romanian Jews Coming.

New York, March 13.—A considerable portion of the crowd in the barge office was made up of Jews, and the majority of these were from Roumania. The Mosiac Passover is five weeks off, and it is expected that after the festival thousands of Roumanian Jews will leave their homes for this country. The cause of this emigration is the discriminative policy of the Roumanian government against aliens, and as all the 200,000 Jews residing in that country except some 200 are aliens, they find themselves shut out of many of the trades and professions. The sum of \$1,000 exacted for admission to citizenship, is beyond the means of all but a few of these Jews.

Alaskan Agriculture.

Kansas City, March 13.—When J. T. Jones, now in this city, talks about his home, with acres after acres of wild currants, rich grazing lands and berries in profusion, the listener is inclined to think he must hail from Florida. As a matter of fact, Juneau, Alaska, is Mr. Jones' home. "We have something there besides gold, he said. Just back from the mountains we have splendid farming land. The winters are cold, but the summers are pleasant indeed. There are no cattle to run the tens of thousands acres of grass we have up there. Instead there is the moose, the caribou, the red deer and other antlered game."

A Big Check.

Colorado Springs, Col., March 13.—The largest check issued in payment for an American gold mine has just been received by W. S. Stratton. It was executed by the Venture corporation, limited, of London, in final payment for Stratton's Independence at Cripple Creek. The mine was sold a year ago for \$10,000,000. Stratton says the price was too low. Stock value has added 40 per cent to this price. Dividends aggregating \$1,464,000 have been paid in nine months, and \$8,000,000 in ore is in sight. The mine is not yet 1,000 feet deep.

Peace Is Possible.

London, March 12.—From various quarters come signs of the possibility of peace in South Africa being shortly within the bounds of practical politics. All the dispatches from Lord Roberts' headquarters including those of the commander-in-chief himself, indicate the lack of a guiding spirit among the Boers and individual demoralization, portending disintegration unless speedily stemmed.

Lumbermen Kick.

Topeka, March 10.—The Kansas State Lumbermen's Association proposes to carry its fight against the railroads for a reduction in lumber freight rates to the interstate commission. At the conference held in Kansas City the other day the railroads refused to accede to the demands of the lumbermen. The Kansas dealers claim that they are being discriminated against and that they will get concessions or die in the last ditch fighting for them. They say they do not like to resort to threats to secure fair treatment, but if necessary they will do so.

First Kentucky Decision.

Louisville, Ky., March 13.—A decision sustaining the contention of the Democrats that the legislature is the tribunal designated by the constitution for the determination of contests for the office of governor and lieutenant governor was handed down in the circuit court by Judge Fields. The Republicans will appeal the case to the state court of appeals and if the decision is against them will try to get a hearing before the United States supreme court.